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Docket No. UI-340XC1
Serial No. 10/731,528

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (Original). A method for treating a patient diagnosed with at least one ophthalmic disorder, wherein said method comprises administering to the patient an effective amount of a steroidal quinol that is converted to a biologically active phenolic A-ring steroid compound *in vivo*.

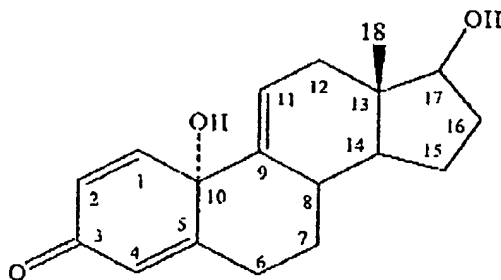
2 (Original). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the quinol is converted to the biologically active phenolic A-ring steroid compound via enzyme-catalyzed reduction.

3 (Original). The method, according to claim 2, wherein the enzyme-catalyzed reduction occurs with an oxidoreductase.

4 (Original). The method, according to claim 2, wherein the enzyme-catalyzed reduction occurs with NADH as a reducing agent.

5 (Original). The method, according to claim 2, wherein the enzyme-catalyzed reduction occurs with NADPH as a reducing agent.

6 (Original). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the steroidal quinol has the general structure



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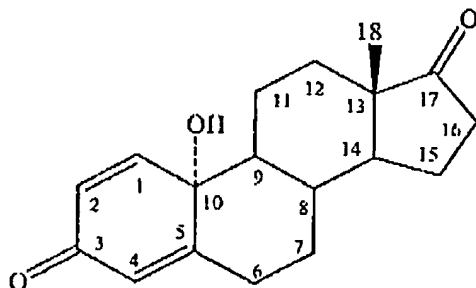
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6 7 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 5, wherein steroidal quinol is derived from the estrogen analog 3,17-dihydroxyestra-1,3,5(10),9(11)-tetracene.

7 8 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 5, further comprising administering the quinol by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, topical, buccal, intramuscular, transdermal, intravenous, and subcutaneous.

8 9 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 5, wherein the ophthalmic disorders are selected from the group consisting of conjunctivitis, diabetic retinopathy, dry eye, macular degeneration, glaucoma, and cataracts.

9 10 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the steroidal quinol has the general structure:



10 11 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 910, further comprising administering the quinol by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, topical, buccal, intramuscular, transdermal, intravenous, and subcutaneous.

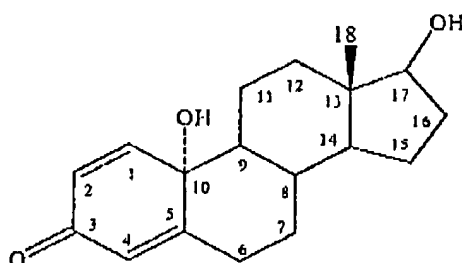
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11 12 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 910, wherein the ophthalmic disorders are selected from the group consisting of conjunctivitis, diabetic retinopathy, dry eye, macular degeneration, glaucoma, and cataracts.

12 13 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the quinol has the general structure:



13 14 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1213, further comprising administering the quinol by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, topical, buccal, intramuscular, transdermal, intravenous, and subcutaneous.

14 15 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1213, wherein the ophthalmic disorders are selected from the group consisting of conjunctivitis, diabetic retinopathy, dry eye, macular degeneration, glaucoma, and cataracts.

15 16 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the steroidal quinol is derived from ~~2-(1-adamantyl)-3-hydroxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one~~ 2-(1-adamantyl)-3-hydroxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one.

16 17 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the steroidal quinol includes a polar functional group to decrease lipophilicity.

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17 18 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 4617, wherein the polar functional group is a phosphate.

18 19 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 4617, wherein the polar functional group is an N,N,N-trialkylammonium ester.

19 20 (Currently amended). The method, according to claim 1, wherein the steroidal quinol does not confer systemic side effects.

21 (New). A steroidal quinol that consists of 2-(1-adamantyl)-3-hydroxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one.

22 (New). A pharmaceutical composition comprising 2-(1-adamantyl)-3-hydroxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one.

23 (New). The method, according to claim 8, wherein the steroidal quinol is administered topically in the form of eye drops or membranous ocular eye patch.

24 (New). The method, according to claim 11, wherein the steroidal quinol is administered topically in the form of eye drops or membranous ocular eye patch.

25 (New). The method, according to claim 14, wherein the steroidal quinol is administered topically in the form of eye drops or membranous ocular eye patch.

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